

Letter from the Editor

Preparing for the time after the crisis

The thunderstorms that have struck economy (Vol. 6, Iss. 2) are becoming less. Currently, it is believed that we have reached the bottom of the economic recession. There are rays of hope blazing at the horizon, which will hopefully be the precursor of sunlight again. Nevertheless, experts dun the public not to be too optimistic again. The crisis is not over yet and its consequences cannot be foreseen completely. However, those companies not standing at the edge of bankruptcy are already preparing for post-crisis business. Once the own processes have been optimized, future strategic alignment becomes one of the main tasks to make oneself as invulnerable as possible for the next downturn. Thus, working on the new major trends like increasing energy costs, aging population or increasing global environmental awareness provides great opportunities. Especially the chemical industry is in the front line here to drive these developments. Therefore, the third issue of the Journal of Business Chemistry sheds light on various aspects of these developments:

In his commentary "A capital market's view on Industrial Biotechnology", Bernd Schneider takes a look at White Biotechnology and its perception at the stock markets. Especially concerning the latter, the author compares White Biotechnology with its red counterpart. Finally, he gives an outlook on the future of Industrial Biotechnology.

The contribution to the Research Section provides a systematic approach for obtaining an overview of a large amount of selected patents. In their article "Assessment of thermal-stable polymer nanocomposite techniques by patent citation network analysis", Hsin-Ning Su and Pei-Chun Lee use basic patents statistics, technology-function and standard industrial classification. Adding patent citation and network properties calculation, they bridge the gap between patented techniques and business management activities.

Kaisa Soirinsuo, Elina Kähkönen, Jouko Karjalainen and Katrina Nordström present a study that evaluates the need for new Active Ingredient development. In their article "Feasibility of Active Ingredient (AI) development for new biocides in the EU", the authors take a closer look at the effects of EU regulations on future market opportunities of biocides.

Finally, Jürgen Peukert and Thomas Fuggenthaler discuss the possibility of pharmaceutical companies to supply even poor parts of the globe with medicinal products. In their contribution "How to implement 'access to medicine' AND enhance economic performance", the authors argue that this socially desirable project can also be beneficial from the economic point of view.

Concurrently with the preparations for the third issue, we revised and relaunched our website to follow the recently revamped print layout. Both versions (print and web) of the JoBC are now going hand in hand again. The new homepage does not only convince with its appearance but also with new features. Among others, the search function now enables the reader to look for keywords in all articles. We hope that the new website will improve your convenience reading the JoBC. Finally, we want to thank the German Research Foundation (DFG) for their financial support, which gave us the opportunity to initiate and complete this project.

Now, please enjoy reading the third issue of the sixth volume of the JoBC. We would like to thank all authors and reviewers who have contributed to this new issue. If you have any comments or suggestions, please do not hesitate to send us an email at contact@businesschemistry.org.

David Große Kathöfer, Executive Editor
(dgk@businesschemistry.org)